

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:TGEN, SP

SUBJECT: 1976 TREATY-S&T COOPERATION:BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

1. AT OCTOBER 22 MEETING OF JOINT S&T COMMITTEE, SPANISH DELEGATION STATED THAT GOS WAS INTERESTED IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH. SINCE THE TREATY DID NOT LIST BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AS AN AREA OF COOPERATION IT WANTED U.S. POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT. U.S. DELEGATION EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH THE REQUEST AND STATED THAT IT WOULD DETERMINE U.S. AGENCY INTEREST IN SUBJECT.

2. WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING COOPERATION IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH. WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET HAD RESPONSES FROM ALL OF THE INSTITUTES, WE HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING: THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE WAS VERY INTERESTED IN COOPERATIVE STUDIES AND IN THE EXCHANGE OF PERSONNEL; NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ALLERGIES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES THOUGHT THAT SMALL WORKING GROUPS ON UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 040791

EACH SIDE COULD BE FORMED TO EXCHANGE VISITS, AND WORKSHOPS COULD BE HELD; NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE POINTED OUT IT HAD PARTICIPATED IN A SYMPOSIUM IN SPAIN IN 1975, AND NHLBI SCIENTISTS ARE CURRENTLY COLLABORATING WITH SPANISH INVESTIGATORS UNDER NSF SPONSORSHIP, WHILE OTHER U.S. SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN COLLABORATING IN EPIDEMI-

LOGICAL STUDIES; NHBLI EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FURTHER COLLABORATION. THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH FELT THAT IT WOULD DEVELOP COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS WHEN SPANISH SCIENTISTS PRESENTLY IN TRAINING IN THE U.S. COMPLETED THEIR TRAINING.

3. THE RESPONDING INSTITUTES POINTED OUT HOWEVER, THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SUCH COOPERATION WITH SPAIN AND THAT ACCORDINGLY, TREATY FUNDS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THEM TO COVER THE COST OF COOPERATION. THE INSTITUTES INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR SMALL GROUPS OF U.S. SCIENTISTS TO MEET WITH THEIR SPANISH COUNTERPARTS TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC JOINT PROPOSALS THAT WOULD BE PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE, BUT THAT TREATY FUNDS WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR THE COST OF THESE PRELIMINARY MEETINGS.

4. THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS INSTITUTES AND SPANISH COUNTERPARTS COULD BEST BE HANDLED AS A COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH. ACCORDINGLY, YOU MAY INFORM THE SPANISH DELEGATION THAT THE U.S. HAS NO OBJECTION TO USING TREATY FUNDS FOR FINANCING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AND THAT AS INDICATED, THERE IS U.S. AGENCY INTEREST IN COLLABORATING IN THIS FIELD.

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